

The Muslim Brotherhood's Fatal Mistake

by [Eric Trager \(/experts/eric-trager\)](#)

Aug 21, 2017

Also available in

[العربية \(/ar/policy-analysis/alkhta-alqatl-ljmat-alakhwan-almismyn\)](#)

ABOUT THE AUTHORS



[Eric Trager \(/experts/eric-trager\)](#)

Eric Trager was the Esther K. Wagner Fellow at The Washington Institute.



Articles & Testimony

A widening rift within the group can be traced to the misguided view that it could elude the government's repression.

On August 14, 2013, in what came to be known as the Rabaa massacre, Egyptian security forces stormed Muslim Brotherhood-led sit-ins at public squares in Cairo and Giza, killing hundreds of people protesting the ouster of Mohamed Morsi, the Brotherhood's leader and Egypt's first elected president. The death toll, which Human Rights Watch later placed at over 800 civilians, shocked the international community, but the bloodshed didn't surprise the Brotherhood. Indeed, from the moment of Morsi's July 3 overthrow, the Brotherhood's leaders understood that they were in a kill-or-be-killed struggle with the new military-backed government...

[Read the full article on the Foreign Affairs website. \(https://www.foreignaffairs.com/articles/egypt/2017-08-21/muslim-brotherhoods-fatal-mistake\)](https://www.foreignaffairs.com/articles/egypt/2017-08-21/muslim-brotherhoods-fatal-mistake) ❖

Foreign Affairs

RECOMMENDED



BRIEF ANALYSIS

[Iran Takes Next Steps on Rocket Technology](#)

Feb 11, 2022



Farzin Nadimi

[\(/policy-analysis/iran-takes-next-steps-rocket-technology\)](#)



BRIEF ANALYSIS

[Saudi Arabia Adjusts Its History, Diminishing the Role of Wahhabism](#)

Feb 11, 2022



Simon Henderson

[\(/policy-analysis/saudi-arabia-adjusts-its-history-diminishing-role-wahhabism\)](#)



ARTICLES & TESTIMONY

[Podcast: Breaking Hezbollah's Golden Rule](#)

Feb 9, 2022



Matthew Levitt

[\(/policy-analysis/podcast-breaking-hezbollahs-golden-rule\)](#)

TOPICS

[Arab & Islamic Politics \(/policy-analysis/arab-islamic-politics\)](#)

REGIONS & COUNTRIES

[Egypt \(/policy-analysis/egypt\)](#)

